



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/715,296	11/17/2003	Steven M. Weinzierl	16623	5217

24113 7590 04/21/2005

PATTERSON, THUENTE, SKAAR & CHRISTENSEN, P.A.
4800 IDS CENTER
80 SOUTH 8TH STREET
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402-2100

EXAMINER

LUM VANNUCCI, LEE SIN YEE

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3611

DATE MAILED: 04/21/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/715,296	Applicant(s) WEINZIERL, STEVEN M.	
	Examiner Lee Lum	Art Unit 3611	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 February 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 and 17-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 15, 16, 22, 23 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. An Amendment was filed 2/15/05 in which Claims 10-23 were added.
2. Claims 10, 11, 16, 17 and 18 are objected to for lack of antecedent basis:
 - in Claims 10 and 17 – efficiency,
 - in Claims 11 and 18 – snow/ice-covered terrain,
 - in Claim 16 – delivery.
3. **Claims 1-9** are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over the following claims in U.S. Patent No. 6651765:
 - a. Claims 1 and 2 of the present application recites, *inter alia*, “a snow/ice retention area”, and causing the snow/ice to be propelled into this area, both limitations recited in Claim 1.
Claims 1-3 and 5 of the patent calls for this same invention, the difference being that (broader) independent Claim 1 does not recite the retention area, nor “causing snow/ice to be propelled into [this area]”, whereas Claim 5 does contain these limitations. (That is, Claim 1 of the present application is narrower than Claim 1 of the patent, but the inventions are identical.)
With respect to the present application, it would have been obvious to include a “retention area” for the step of “locating snow/ice on a heat exchanger” because the former is necessary to effect the latter function. Likewise, it would have been obvious to “cause snow/ice to be propelled into [this area]” to effect the function of “passing ram air through...the snow/ice”.

Art Unit: 3611

b. Claims 3-5 of the present application includes, *inter alia*, two heat exchangers, monitoring operating conditions of the engine, and injecting the intercooler liquid into an air intake assembly.

Claims 6-10 of the patent describes the same invention, the difference being that (broader) Claim 6 does not recite the last two limitations, these being included in Claim 9. (That is, Claim 3 of the present application is narrower than Claim 6 of the patent, but the inventions are identical.)

With respect to the present application, it would have been obvious to include the last two limitations to provide proper operation of the cooling system since it involves two heat exchangers, as well as passage of liquid and air. Monitoring of engine conditions would have been obvious to assist in these functions so to maximize proper operation of the complicated cooling system.

c. Claim 6 of the present application recites the exact same invention as that in Claim 14 of the patent; a snowmobile comprising, *inter alia*, an air charging system, an intercooler system, and a screen for the intercooler opening.

d. Claims 6 and 7 of the present application recites the same invention as that in Claims 11 and 12 of the patent, except Claim 6 includes a screen. It would have been obvious to include this element to filter at least a portion of the debris in the propelled snow/ice.

e. Claims 6 and 8 of the present application recites the same invention as that in Claim 13 of the patent, the difference being that Claim 6 does not include "a flap", this element recited instead in Claim 8. However, the inventions are identical.

With respect to the present application, it would have been obvious to include this element to repel some of the debris, etc. from entering the heat exchanger.

f. Claims 6 and 9 of the present application recites the same invention as that in Claim 15 of the patent, the difference being that Claim 6 does not include "a ram air duct". It would have been obvious to include this well-known element to assist the air charging system.

Art Unit: 3611

The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. See *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and, *In re Thorington*, 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent is shown to be commonly owned with this application. See 37 CFR 1.130(b).

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

LDm
4/1/05
Claims 10-14 and 17-21 (~~37-22-55-56-57-58-59-60-61-62-63-64-65-66-67-68-69-70-71-72-73-74-75-76-77-78-79-80-81-82-83-84-85-86-87-88-89-90-91-92-93-94-95-96-97-98-99-100~~) are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Fukuda 5152255.

Re Claims 10-14, Fukuda discloses an air-charging system for use with a snowmobile engine 16, comprising

First heat exchanger 103, being formed of thermally-conductive material (inherent), including

Art Unit: 3611

Use of latent heat (inherent; heat exchanger is warmer than incoming (ram) air and snow/ice) such that the efficiency of the heat exchanger including the heat of fusion to melt snow/ice in thermal communication with the heat exchanger (inherent; incoming snow/ice encounters the heat exchanger that is warmer in temperature),

The efficiency also enhanced by vaporization of entrained water (inherent; heat exchanger is warmer than incoming air and snow/ice, thus melting and vaporizing occurs).

Re Claims 17-21, the reference also discloses a method of cooling an air charge in an air-charging system, the steps derived from the structure/means provided above.

5. **Claims 15, 16, 22 and 23** are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims, and any objections resolved. Prior art does not disclose the system provided above further comprising a second heat exchanger.

6. **RESPONSE TO REMARKS**

Examiner maintains her rejections of Claims 1-9 under double-patenting because a terminal disclaimer was not submitted.

Amendments necessitated new rejections employing Fukuda which discloses the recited elements/steps.

7. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

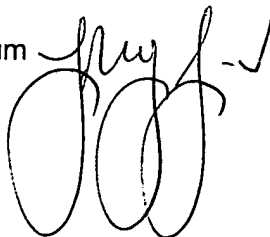
A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

8. Communication with USPTO/Examiner

Any inquiry concerning this communication, or others, should be directed to Ms. Lum at 571 272-6649, M-F, 9-6. If attempts to reach the examiner are unsuccessful, her supervisor, Ms. Lesley Morris is at 571 272-6651. Our fax number is 703 872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for unpublished applications: private PAIR only, for published applications: private or public PAIR. For more information re PAIR: <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Questions re private PAIR: contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866 217-9197.

Ms. Lee S. Lum
Examiner
4/11/05



LESLIE D. MORRIS
SUPERVISOR
TELEPHONE 3600